

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ACDA-07 MCT-01
OMB-01 /101 W
-----021053Z 034297 /10

R 020808Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9713
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCPAC HONOLULU
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 3831

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PP, ID, SG
SUBJECT: WEST IRIAN DISSIDENT MOVEMENT SEEKS US SUPPORT

REF: A) PORT MORESBY 588, B) PORT MORESBY 598, C) PORT MORESBY 599

1. SUMMARY: THROUGH LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM DAKAR-BASED "FOREIGN MINISTER" TANGGAHMA, "REVOLUTIONARY PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF WEST PAPUA NEW GUINEA" (RPG) HAS APPEALED FOR US MORAL SUPPORT AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE. RPG APPROACH IS CONFIDENTIAL

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KEYED TO US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. EMBOFF AFFIRMED US SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT STRESSED GOOD AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST WHICH RPG IN REVOLT. EMBASSY REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON CONTACTS WITH RPG. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY WAS VISITED JUNE 1 BY RPG "FOREIGN MINISTER" BERNARD M.R. TANGGAHMA, WHO MAINTAINS "INFORMATION MISSION"

IN DAKAR. HE PRESENTED LENGTHY MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT CARTER FOR FORWARDING BY EMBASSY.

3. TANGGAHMA SAID APPROACH "ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM MY GOVERNMENT" WAS BEING MADE IN LIGHT OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S STRONG HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENT. MEMORANDUM ARGUES "RIGHT OF WEST PAPUA NEW GUINEAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE." IT RECALLS U.S. MEDIATION "BY AMBASSADOR ELLSWORTH BUNKER" IN 1962 NEW YORK AGREEMENT (UNDER WHICH IRIAN JAJA WAS ANNEXED BY INDONESIA) WHICH "WAS IMPLEMENTED OVER THE HEADS OF THE POPULATION OF WEST PAPUA NEW GUINEA." MEMORANDUM ALLEGES "WAR OF GENOCIDE" BY INDONESIANS IN WHICH 100,000 "PAPUAN PATRIOTS" KILLED, AND MORE THAN 20,000 IMPRISONED OR DEPORTED. INDONESIA ALLEGEDLY SEEKS "PROGRESSIVE EXTINCTION AND/OR ABSORPTION OF NATIVE BLACK PAPUANS." MEMO OUTLINES RPG STRATEGY FOR POLITICIZING PEOPLE, ESTABLISHING SECURITY ZONES, AND MOBILIZING WORLD OPINION, AND CALLS ON US IN CONTEXT OF ITS "HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM" TO APPEAL TO INDONESIA TO RECOGNIZE RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE AND WITHDRAW FROM WEST PAPUA NEW GUINEA, TO RECOMMEND UN LEGAL ACTION TO SECURE INDEPENDENCE, AND TO GIVE "MORAL SUPPORT AND WHATEVER MATERIAL ASSISTANCE CAN BE AFFORDED."

4. MEMORANDUM IS ACCOMPANIED BY SIXTY PAGES OF DOCUMENTATION ON "NATIONAL LIBERATION STRUGGLE." AMONG ENCLOSURES ARE TANGGAHMA'S CREDENTIALS SIGNED BY "PRESIDENT" SETH J. RUMKOREM, PRESS RELEASES, CLIPPINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS. PACKET INCLUDES VARIOUS PIECES OF HIGH QUALITY RPG LETTERHEAD, AND OTHER EXPENSIVELY PRINTED MATERIALS.

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5. TANGGAHMA RESTATED HIS INTENTION (REF 76 DAKAR 7342 AND 76 STATE 278126) TO VISIT US. HE SAID PURPOSE WOULD BE TO GENERATE SUPPORT FOR RPG AND POSSIBLY MEET WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS.

6. EMBOFF AFFIRMED U.S. COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT STRESSED GOOD RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA AND IMPLAUSIBILITY OF US ENTERING INTO OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH SELF-PROCLAIMED "REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT" IN THAT COUNTRY.

7. REF B NEWSPAPER STORY THAT RPG PRESIDENT RUMKOREM BEING HELD CAPTIVE BY FELLOW REBEL JACOB PRAI CAME AS SURPRISE TO TANGGAHMA. HE SAID HE HAD HAD NO MESSAGE FROM RPG FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, BUT HAD EARLIER UNDERSTOOD THAT TWO MEN HAD BEEN RECONCILED. HE SAID THAT NICHOLAAS JOUWE, IRIANESE RESIDING IN HOLLAND WHO WAS FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER, HAD BEEN DISMISSED FOR INACTIVITY PRIOR TO HIS OWN ASSUMPTION OF THAT RESPONSIBILITY. TANGGAHMA SAID DAKAR OFFICE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL RPG INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES, THOUGH REGIONAL OFFICE BEING ESTABLISHED IN STOCKHOLM.

TANGGAHMA SAID HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM EXTENSIVE TRAVELS AND CLAIMED TO HAVE FOUND "SYMPATHY" IN SUCH VARIED COUNTRIES AS TANZANIA, MOZAMBIQUE, LIBERIA AND GHANA, AND THAT SUPPORT WAS GROWING IN PACIFIC AS WELL. HE SAID RPG GUERILLAS WERE NOT AIDED BY ANY SINGLE COUNTRY, THOUGH HE NOTED SENEGAL'S SUPPORT FOR LOCAL OFFICE.

8. TANGGAHMA SAID SOUTH MOLUCCAN AND PAPUAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS HAD GONE IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS AND RPG HAD NO PRESENT CONTACT WITH SOUTH MOLUCCAN NATIONALIST GROUPS. HE DEPLORED CURRENT ACTS OF TERRORISM IN NETHERLANDS.

9. RPG MATERIALS BEING POUCHED AF/W. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON REPLY TO TANGGAHMA AND CONTACT WITH RPG.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAKAR03831
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770196-0673
Format: TEL
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770699/aaaadiqd.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6c16c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PORT MORESBY 588, 77 PORT MORESBY 598, 77 PORT MORESBY 599
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2309122
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST IRIAN DISSIDENT MOVEMENT SEEKS US SUPPORT
TAGS: PINS, PP, ID, SG, (TANGGAHMA, BERNARD MR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6c16c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009